GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1827
ANSWERED ON:12.03.2007
SUBSIDY OF PESTICIDES
Singh Shri Chandrabhan Bhaiya

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large part of subsidy being provided by the Government goes to pesticides;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the use of pesticides per hectare of land is much lower than other developing and developed countries;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the pesticides manufacturers and formulators association of India have requested the Government for cut in duty to control prices of pesticides; and

(f) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a) & (b): Government of India gives assistance to states under the schemes of Macro Management and National Horticulture Mission for the promotion of Integrated Pest Management (IPM). IPM is an environment friendly and ecological approach for managing pest problems, encompassing pest control techniques such as cultural, mechanical, biological and scientific & judicious use of chemical pesticides. There is no separate scheme for providing subsidy for pesticides alone.

(c) & (d): Yes, Sir. The use of pesticides per hectare in India is lower than many developing and developed countries. The use of pesticides in a country depends on various factors like agro- climatic conditions & pest status etc. Government if India has adapted Integrated Pest Management as the cardinal principle and main plank of its plant protection strategy and recommends only need based and judicious use of pesticides. In view of the above approach and due to introduction of pest resistant varieties, the pesticide consumption (Technical) has come down from 47020 MT during 2001-02 to 39773 MT during 2005-06.

(e) & (f): Pesticides Manufacturers and Formulators Association of India have made a representation requesting the Government for a reduction in Excise duty on pesticides. Though their request was taken up for consideration, the same was not agreed in the budget of 2007-08.